Message Text

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PAGE 01 MASERU 01421 291711Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 /072 W

-----091012 301211Z /43 R 290915Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8888
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MBABANE

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E.O.11652: N/A TAGS: PINT LS SP

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SPANISH GOVT. REPRESENTATIVE

1. A SPANISH GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE, MR. FELIX ARIAS FLLAMAS VISITED MASERU JUNE 26/27 TO DELIVER A MESSAGE TO THE GOL ON THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE CANARY ISLANDS AUTONOMY ISSUE. MR. ARIAS, WHO IS TOURING THE ENGLISH AND PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING COUNTRIES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, TOLD THE CHARGE THAT GOS EMISSARIES ARE CALLING ON ALMOST EVERY AFRICAN GOVERNMENT PRIOR TO THE JULY OAU MEETING IN THE HOPE OF HEADING OFF OR AT LEAST DIFFUSING DISCUSSION OF THIS ISSUE IN THE OAU. HE SAID GOS IS AFRAID THAT, WITH OAU DIVIDED ON ALMOST EVERY AFRICAN ISSUE, THERE MIGHT BE A TENDENCY IN THE MEETING TO SETTLE ON THIS ISSUE AS ONE ON WHICH ALL COULD AGREE. HE ADDED THAT, WHILE GOS DOES NOT EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO PERSUADE ALL OR MOST AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS TO SUPPORT ITS POSITION. IT WANTS TO HAVE ITS POSITION UNDERSTOOD AND TO HEAD OFF ANY POSSIBLITY THAT FRIENDLY COUNTRIES COULD LATER SAY THAT THEIR VOTE ON THE CANARY ISLAND ISSUE HAD BEEN CAST WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF THE GOS POSITION. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 MASERU 01421 291711Z

2. MR ARIAS HAS VISITED ANGOLA AND WAS GOING ON FROM HERE TO MOZAMBIQUE. IN MASERU HE WAS ABLE TO PRESENT HIS CASE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND PRIME MINISTER. ALTHOUGH HE APPARENTLY WAS GIVEN A POLITE HEARING, HE DID NOT INDICATE WHAT, IF ANY, REACTION HE RECEIVED FROM GOL. STOKES

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Message Attributes

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